Planning and Development Department Update

DATE: May 27, 2011

TO: Mayor Setti D. Warren

FROM: Candace Havens, Director of Planning and Development

RE: Friday Report

CC: Board of Aldermen

Robert Rooney, Chief Operating Officer

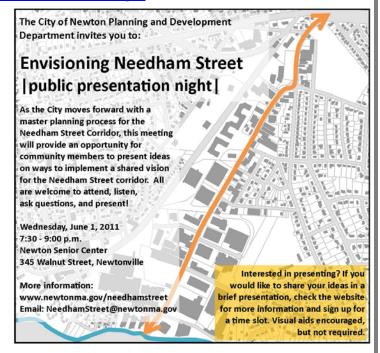
This weekly report is intended to keep you informed of current development proposals and other noteworthy planning and development activities as follows:

Monday 5/30/11	City Hall Closed for Memorial Day
Tuesday 5/31/11	
Wednesday 6/1/11	 Fair Housing Committee, 8:00 a.m., Room 202 Needham Street Public Presentation Night, 7:30 p.m., Newton Senior Center, 345 Walnut Street, Newtonville
Thursday 6/2/11	 The Farm Commission, 7:00 p.m., Room 222 Austin Street Joint Advisory Planning Group, 7:00 p.m., Newton Senior Center, 345 Walnut Street, Newtonville Transportation Advisory Committee, 7:00 p.m., Cafeteria, City Hall Basement Newtonville Historic District Commission, 7:30 p.m., Room 202

- Fair Housing Committee: The Committee will meet on Wednesday, June 1st at 8:00 a.m. in Room 202. The agenda includes the following: Discussion on the Newton Housing Authority's reasonable accommodation policy; discussion regarding the final architectural access report; review and approval of April and May meeting minutes; review of the fair housing program on May 5th; discussion on next fall's workplan; membership and appointment of Nominating Committee for nominations of chair and assistant chair; and other business.

 Contact Robert Muollo, Jr. at 617.796.1146 or email rmuollo@newtonma.gov.
- Needham Street Public Presentation Night: The public is invited to offer their "big ideas" about what might happen on Needham Street at Public Presentation Night on Wednesday, June 1st from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Newton Senior Center, 345 Walnut Street, Newtonville. This community meeting will build off of the common themes that were developed at the Community Visioning Session on April 14th. All are welcome to attend, listen, and ask questions! Are you interested in presenting? If so, check the website for more information and call Amanda Stout at 617-796-1127 to sign up for a time slot. For all information on previous and upcoming meetings, please visit:

<u>www.newtonma.gov/needhamstreet</u> or email NeedhamStreet@newtonma.gov.



• **Newton Farm Commission:** The Farm Commission will meet on **Thursday, June 2nd** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 222. The following items are on the agenda: Updates on the pullet shed; minutes from the May meeting. **Contact Alexandra Ananth at 617.796.1121 or aananth@newtonma.gov**.

- Austin Street Joint Advisory Planning Group: The Austin Street JAPG will meet on Thursday, June 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at the Newton Senior Center, 345 Walnut Street in Newtonville. The agenda includes a continued discussion of a vision for the reuse of the Austin Street parking lot site focusing on infrastructure, ownership options, and other outstanding issues. Detailed agendas and meeting notes can be found on our webpage www.newtonma.gov/austinst. Contact Eve Tapper at 617.796.1141 or etapper@newtonma.gov.
- Newtonville Historic District Commission: The Commission will meet on Thursday, June 2nd at 7:30 p.m. in Room 202, Newton City Hall. The following items are on the agenda: Review the following application: 19 Prescott Street request to approve finial, pediment design, newels and balustrade. Other business includes approval of minutes from the February 2011 meeting. Contact Katy Holmes at 617.796.1143 or kholmes@newtonma.gov.
- Transportation Advisory Committee: The next Transportation Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, June 2nd starting at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Cafeteria. For a meeting agenda, please follow this link: http://www.newtonma.gov/Planning/TAC/agendas-and-minutes.htm. Contact David Koses at 617.796.1133, dkoses@newtonma.gov.
- Save the date! Celebration at Norumbega Park Conservation Area: The public is invited to Norumbega Conservation area on Saturday, May 28th at 10:00 a.m. to show its appreciation to Tom McKinney, General Manager of the Marriott Hotel and to Mr. Romeo D'Agostino, Newton resident, for their help maintaining Norumbega Park conservation area for the enjoyment of all. The Marriott donated \$6,000 to purchase a new bench for our Charles River overlook, and to re-grade a badly eroding path. Mr. D'Agostino provided materials and labor to completely recover the path around the fields with wood chips. Visitors may park at the Islington Road circle or on Woodbine Street. We will meet at the overlook to the Charles, take a short walk from the overlook to the newly graded path to the chipped path around the field, then back to the overlook. Refreshments will be supplied by the Marriott Hotel. Contact Anne Phelps at 617.796.1134 or aphelps@newtonma.gov.
- Zipcar Arrives in Newton: Zipcar, the Cambridge-based car-sharing company that enables members to rent a car by the hour as an alternative to car ownership, expanded into Newton Centre this spring. Zipcar members may now reserve the Toyota Prius (\$7.50/hour) or the Nissan Altima Hybrid (\$11.50/hour) that are parked in designated spaces in the Langley Road ("triangle") parking lot. Zipcar pays the City to park in these spaces while providing a valuable and sustainable transportation option to help residents, visitors, and employees reach their destinations. Zipcar has already reported heavy usage of the cars. If the success continues, this one-year trial may be expanded to other areas of Newton. For more information, visit www.zipcar.com.

